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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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 Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, DC 20231

Re: New U.S. Patent Application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) – Wolfgang Peter, Bernd Edenhofer and Jan-Willem Bouwman

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATMENT OF METALLIC WORKPIECES

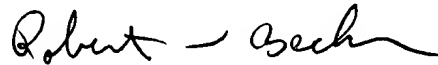
Sir:

1. Please find enclosed herewith for filing: 11 pages specification, 3 pages (16) claims, 1 page abstract, combined declaration and power of attorney, and 4 pages, 4 figures, drawings in support of the above identified application.
2. It is respectfully requested that this application be granted the priority date of April 14, 2000, the filing date of the corresponding European patent application 00 10 8203.1. A certified copy of the European priority document is filed herewith.
3. Also enclosed herewith is an assignment from the inventors Wolfgang Peter, Bernd Edenhofer and Jan-Willem Bouwman to Ipsen International GmbH, Flutstrasse 78, D-47533 Kleve, Germany, which you will kindly record at the Patent and Trademark Office.
4. I am enclosing my check in the amount of \$730.00* to cover the official fees
 composed of:

Basic fee	\$690.00
Additional fees:	
Total number of claims in excess of 20 (# claims times \$18.00)	\$ 00.00
Number of independent claims in excess of 3 (# claims times \$78.00)	\$ 00.00
Assignment recording fee	\$ 40.00
TOTAL FEE	<u>\$730.00</u>

* It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and any fees required or any shortages in any fees be charged to Deposit Account 02-1653.

Respectfully,



Robert W. Becker
 Registration No. 26,255

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